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SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—“ செப்டம்பர் மாதத்தில் கனம் முதலமைச்சர் அவர்கள் தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவில் சுற்றுப் பிரயாணம் செய்தபோது எத்தனை ஜில்லா போர்டு தேர்தல் கூட்டங்களில் கலந்துகொண்டார்கள் என்று சொல்ல முடியுமா ? ”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ Sir, I have no information with me just now, with regard to the number of public meetings the Hon. the Chief Minister addressed during that tour. When a Minister tours a place, incidentally he has to address a public meeting also.”

11-40 a.m. SRI S. VADIVELU :—“ சகல கட்சிகளையும் சேர்ந்த பொது மக்களின் வரிப் பணத்தைச் செலவு செய்துகொண்டு, தங்களுடைய கட்சிப் பிரசாரத்திற்காக முதல் மந்திரி அவர்கள் தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவில் சுற்றுப் பிரயாணம் செய்தது சரிதானா ? அந்தச் சுற்றுப் பிரயாணத்தின் போது எத்தனை மிராசுதார்களுடைய வீட்டில் அவர் விருந்துண்டார்கள் என்பதைப்பற்றி கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் தெரிவிக்க முடியுமா ? ”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ மந்திரிகள் தங்களுடைய கடமையை நிறைவேற்றுவதற்காக பொது ஜனங்களிடையே தொடர்பு கொண்டிருப்பது மிகவும் அவசியம். அதற்காக ஜில்லாக்களிலே அம்மாதிரி சுற்றுப்பிரயாணம் செய்ய வேண்டியதும் அவசியமாக இருக்கிறது. அந்த சமயத்திலே பல பேர்களை அவர்கள் சந்திக்க நேரிடுகிறது. அப்படிச் சந்திக்கவும் வேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. மிராசுதார்களாக இருந்தாலும் சரி, விவசாயிகளாக இருந்தாலும் சரி, தொழிலாளிகளாக இருந்தாலும் சரி, ஆயிரக் கணக்கானவர்களை அவர்கள் சந்தித்திருப்பார்கள் என்பதில் சந்தேகமே கிடையாது.”

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—“ Sir, I wish to rise on a point of personal explanation.”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ The hon. Member cannot rise on a point of personal explanation when he has not put any question.”

Opening of a Medical College

* 747 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any general philanthropist, the local public and local bodies, have come forward with public funds to start Medical Colleges in the districts;

(*b*) if so, the particulars thereof; and

(*c*) the recommendations of the State Government to the Planning Commission for opening more medical colleges and for assistance for imported medical equipment?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ (*a*) & (*b*) The Dr. Alagappa Chettiar College Endowment Trust, Karaikudi, has intimated to Government its desire to start a Medical College and has requested the Government to give necessary assistance for the proposed Medical College and also for the establishment of an associated hospital. The Government have constituted a Committee to examine the matter in detail and to submit a report to them. The report of the Committee is awaited.

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" (c) As far as the Residuary Madras State is concerned, the opening of a new Medical College at Madurai formed one of the Schemes of the Medical Department included in the First Five-Year Plan. No recommendations have been made to the Planning Commission for the assistance in procuring imported medical equipment."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" Sir, may I know the number of Medical Colleges that will be opened in the State in the next Five-Year Plan and where they will be located? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, in regard to this matter no proposals have been considered so far."

Government waste lands in South Kanara

* 748 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal to bring under cultivation the cultivable waste lands in South Kanara district?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Presumably, the hon. Member refers to Government waste lands. No proposal as such, to bring under cultivation such cultivable waste lands in South Kanara district is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, it is more than six years since the Government accepted the principle of bringing into cultivation waste lands as one of their important plans of development. It is a sad state of affairs that we have not even got statistics of waste lands available in the State. Will the Government be pleased to institute a comprehensive enquiry into the matter so that at least hereafter the cultivation of waste lands can be pursued as a matter of policy? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, the Government have not been sitting idle over this question. They have been taking all possible steps to bring under cultivation all waste lands which are immediately ready for cultivation. As regards waste lands that have got to be reclaimed, the Government have also undertaken a survey of them in one selected taluk in each district. As soon as this survey is completed, it will be extended to the remaining taluks in the districts."

SRI T. ANANTA PAI :—" Sir, in reply to a question of mine on a previous occasion, the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture said that in Malnad area of South Kanara district there are about 170,000 acres of waste land which are capable of being brought under cultivation. In view of the fact that South Kanara is not very much on the surplus side in the matter of food supplies, will the Government be pleased to call for a report from the district authorities as to the best possible means of utilizing these waste lands? "